



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In re Application of: Shannon, et al.

Serial No.: 09/943,412

Filed: August 30, 2001

Confirmation No.: 7801

Title: TISSUE PRODUCTS CONTAINING A FLEXIBLE BINDER

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

Attorney Docket No.: KCX-437-16324

Date: December 13, 2001

Art Unit: 1619

Our Account No.: 04-1403

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Sir:

The following is an Information Disclosure Statement for the captioned patent application, pursuant to 37 CFR Sections 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98.

1.[X] Attached hereto is:

- a.[X] A list of materials for consideration per Rule 98(a)(1): 2 page(s)
- b.[X] A legible copy of each patent, publication, or other item listed per Rule 98(1)(2), unless not required per Rule 98(c) and/or (d) and as indicated on the attached list(s):
38 item(s)
- c.[] For each non-English language item listed, pursuant to Rule 98(a)(3), a concise explanation of the relevance thereof as it is presently understood by the individual designated in Rule 56(c) most knowledgeable about the content of such items: _____
- [] Such explanation is provided in the Search Report from a corresponding application enclosed herewith along with any enclosed translation into English.

2.[X] This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed [CHECK ONE]:

- a.[X] WITHIN THREE MONTHS of the application filing date or national stage date of entry OR BEFORE the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever event occurs last, WHEREFORE per Rule 97(b) NO filing fee or Rule 97(e) certificate is required.
- b.[] AFTER the time periods of section 2.a above, but BEFORE a Final Action, Notice of Allowance OR an action that otherwise closes prosecution, WHEREFORE PER Rule 97(c) submitted herewith is [CHECK ONE]:
- i.[] Certification per Rule 97(e); OR
- ii.[] Filing Fee per Rule 17(p)\$180.00
- c.[] AFTER a Final Action OR Notice of Allowance, but BEFORE payment of the issue fee, WHEREFORE per Rule 97(d) submitted herewith is:
- i. Certification per Rule 97(e); AND
- ii. Filing fee per Rule 17(p)\$180.00

3.[] Rule 97(e) Certification; per Rule 97(e), the undersigned certifying party make the following certification statement [CHECK ONE]:

- a.[] That each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement; OR
- b.[] That no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and to the knowledge of the undersigned after making a reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in Rule 56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

CERTIFYING PARTY (if different from bottom signature; omission here indicates that certification is being made by signer per signature below).

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4.[X] DEPOSIT ACCOUNT AUTHORIZATION: The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee specifically authorized hereafter, or any fees in addition to the fee(s) filed, or asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith or concerning any paper filed hereafter, and which may be required under Rules 16-18 (deficiency only) now or hereafter relative to this application and the resulting official document under Rule 20, or credit any overpayment, to our Account No. shown in the heading hereof for which purpose a duplicate copy of this sheet is attached. This statement does not authorize charge of the issue fee in this case.

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